



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF AKLAN

November 12, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 615, s. 2025

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE
PHILIPPINES EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
STANDARDS (PELDS) VALIDATION**

To: Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Principals/Head Teacher In-Charge of the District
Public Secondary and Integrated School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a copy of Regional Memorandum CLMD 2025 156, from Jocelyn DR Andaya, Regional Director, NCR, Concurrent Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations, regarding the Request for Assistance on the Conduct of the Philippines Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) Validation.
2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

FOR THE SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT:


MICHAEL T. RAPIZ
Chief Supervisor Education-SGOD
In-charge of the Division 

DPP/dsc



Poblacion, Numancia, Aklan
Tel/Fax No. (265 3740 | 265 3741 | 265 3743)
Website: <https://depedaklan.online>
Email Address: aklan.1958@deped.gov.ph



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI-WESTERN VISAYAS

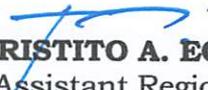
OCT 28 2025

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
CLMD-2025- **T 5 6**

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE PHILIPPINES EARLY
LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS (PELDS) VALIDATION**

To: Schools Division Superintendent of the Division of Aklan
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is Memorandum OM-OASOPS-2025-A445 from Jocelyn DR Andaya, Regional Director, NCR, Concurrent Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations, regarding the Request for Assistance on the Conduct of the Philippines Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) Validation, which is self-explanatory.
2. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


CRISTITO A. ECO, CESO III
Assistant Regional Director
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Regional Director

Encl.: None

Reference: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CURRICULUM
LEARNERS
REQUESTS
RESEARCH OR STUDIES

SAA/CLMD-RMWLC-Request for Assistance on
154/October 23, 2025



Address: Duran Street, Iloilo City, 5000
Telephone Nos: (033) 337-0149; 336-2816
Email Address: region6@deped.gov.ph
Website: region6.deped.gov.ph

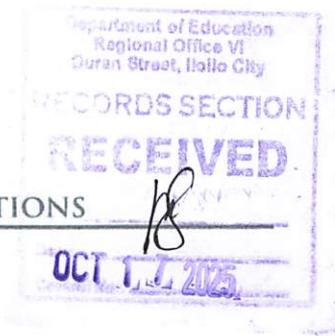


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Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS



MEMORANDUM

OM-OASOPS-2025- A445

TO : **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
(Regions III, IV-B, V, VI, VII, X, XI, XII, and CAR)

JOEL T. TORRECAMPO

*Schools Division Superintendent and
 concurrent Officer-in-Charge, Office of the
 Assistant Regional Director, DepEd NCR*

SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

*(Divisions of Pampanga, Oriental Mindoro, Albay, Ligao City, Aklan,
 Cebu Province, Misamis Oriental, Cagayan de Oro City, Davao de
 Oro, Cotabato Province, Kidapawan City, Ifugao, Navotas City, and
 Quezon City)*

FROM



JOCELYN DR ANDAYA

*Regional Director, NCR
 concurrent Officer-in-Charge,
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations*

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE
 PHILIPPINES EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
 STANDARDS (PELDS) VALIDATION**

DATE : September 10, 2025

This pertains to the memorandum from Janir T. Datukan, Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems, dated August 20, 2025, regarding the request of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), relative to the conduct of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) validation in selected Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and identified public and private schools. Below is the list of target areas for validation:

Regions	Provinces	City/Municipality	Barangay
CAR	Ifugao	Aguinaldo	Galonogon
			Ubao
		Mayoyao	Chaya
			Poblacion
III	Pampanga	Lubao	Santa Maria
			Santa Cruz
		Santa Rita	Dila-Dila
			San Vicente
IV-B	Oriental Mindoro	Puerto Galera	Santo Nino
			Poblacion



		Baco	Baras
			Poblacion
V	Albay	Daraga	Alobo
			Anislag
		Ligao City	Busac
			Tuburan
VI	Aklan	Kalibo	Tinigaw
			Andagaw
VII	Cebu	Dumanjug	Kanyuko
			Tapon
		Dalaguete	Tapun
			Dumalan
X	Misamis Oriental	Naawan	Poblacion
			Patag
		Cagayan de Oro City	Bayabas
			Camaman-an
XI	Davao de Oro	Campostela	Mapaca
			Maparat
		Montevista	Lebanon
			San Jose
XII	Cotabato	Kidapawan City	Sumbao
			Poblacion
		Makilala	Saguing
			Sinkatulan
NCR	NCR	Navotas City	San Jose
			Navotas East
		Quezon City	Marilag
			East Kamias

The validation activity aims to ensure that the revised standards are developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, and inclusive of children from diverse backgrounds across the Philippines.

In line with this, this Office respectfully endorses the matter, for your review and evaluation, subject to the provisions of all relevant rules and regulations of the Department of Education.

For further inquiries and concerns, kindly directly contact the Early Childhood Care and Development Task Force through email at eccd.tf@deped.gov.ph or number at 09619263003.

Kindly see attached file, for your reference and immediate action.

Enclosure: as stated

Copy furnished:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

osec@deped.gov.ph

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

Department of Education



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

MEMORANDUM

OM-OASLS-ECCDLCC-2025-

FOR : **MALCOM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Operations

FROM : **JANIR T. DATUKAN**
Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems

SUBJECT : **Request for Endorsement for Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) Validation Project Coordination with Selected Regions, SDOs, and Schools**

DATE : **August 20, 2025**

This is in reference to the letter of Mr. Edgar Donoso, representative from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), relative to the request for endorsement of the conduct of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) Validation to the concerned Department of Education (DepEd) Regional Offices (ROs), Schools Division Offices (SDOs), and selected public and private schools.

In collaboration with the Social Development Research Center (SDRC) of De La Salle University, this initiative aims to ensure a seamless continuum and smooth transition for children from home to Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) centers, to kindergarten, and through Grade 3.

In view of the foregoing, this Office respectfully transmits the above letter and its attachments, and seeks your assistance to facilitate the said request.

For inquiries and/or clarifications, please contact the Early Childhood Care and Development Task Force via email at eccd.tf@deped.gov.ph or +63 961-926-3003.

For appropriate action.

DepED



16/F Techzone Building, Malugay/Gil Puyat Street, Barangay San Antonio, Makati City
Telephone No.: (02) 8631-8495
Email Address: casct.eaac@deped.gov.ph

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www.deped.gov.ph

V-F
Region



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

MEMORANDUM
OM-OASLS-ECCDLCC-2025-

FOR : **MALCOM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Operations

FROM : **JANIR T. DATUKAN**
Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems

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For appropriate action.



16/F Techzone Building, Malugay/Gil Puyat Street, Barangay San Antonio, Makati City
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DepEd Philippines



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www.deped.gov.ph

Outlook

00-1A-2025-08-17128

Request for Endorsement for PELDS Validation Project Coordination with Selected Regions, SDOs, and Schools

From Mary Grace Simangan <msimangan@unicef.org>

Date Fri 8/1/2025 2:38 PM

To Office of the Secretary <osec@deped.gov.ph>

Cc Ronald Mendoza <ron.mendoza@deped.gov.ph>; Office of the USec for Human Resource & Organizational Dev (OUHROD) <usec.hrod@deped.gov.ph>; Ronald Mendoza <ron.mendoza@deped.gov.ph>; Ahnee Lae Abutin <ahnee.abutin@deped.gov.ph>; Maria Caridad Tarroja <maria.caridad.tarroja@dlsu.edu.ph>; Edgar Donoso <edonoso@unicef.org>; Akihiro Fushimi <afushimi@unicef.org>; Psyche Vetta Olayvar <pvolayvar@unicef.org>; Orson James Calub <ojcalub@unicef.org>

2 attachments (552 KB)

MALO 25-461 Letter to DepEd Secretary Angara.pdf; Final Project Sites_UNICEF_.xlsx;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from msimangan@unicef.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Sent from the Office of Mr. Edgar Donoso Paz, Representative a.i. - UNICEF PHILIPPINES

Hon. Juan Edgardo M. Angara
Secretary, Department of Education

Attention: Assistant Secretary Mel Oracion
OIC, Office of the Undersecretary for Learning System Strand

Dear Secretary Angara,

Warm greetings from UNICEF!

As part of the Work Plan under the Government of the Philippines and UNICEF's 9th Country Program for Children, we are currently supporting the ECCD Council and the Department of Education in the enhancement and expansion of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) for children aged 0-8 years.

The PELDS is a vital national framework that outlines age-appropriate developmental milestones and learning standards for young children. Aligned with one objective of the newly legislated ECCD System Law (RA 12199), it serves as the foundation for reviewing and aligning curriculum, instruction, assessment practices, and competency standards for ECCD workers and Kindergarten to Grade 3 teachers. This initiative aims to ensure a seamless continuum and smooth transition for children from home to ECCD centers, to kindergarten, and through to Grade 3.

To support this effort, we have engaged the Social Development Research Center (SDRC) of De La Salle University to conduct content and age validation of the enhanced and expanded PELDS. The primary goal of this validation is to ensure that the standards are developmentally sound, culturally responsive, and inclusive of children from diverse contexts across the Philippines.

The validation process is being overseen by the PELDS Advisory Group, which includes members of the ECCD Council Technical Working Group, representatives from BARMM MBHTE and MSSD, selected experts, UNICEF, and the World Bank. The Department of Education is represented by Ms. Emily Mallari and Ms. Forcefina Frias from DepEd-BLD, and Ms. Sheena Manuel from DepEd-BCD.

sent to osec via email 08/01/25
<https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQKA9NIZTRIMmQxLWVINTMINGlyOC1iYzg2LWE1YzIiODNiZGUxNgAQANfZ4LHn9EuGk5Wpndb0pb...>

1/2

As part of the validation activities, SDRC-DLSU will conduct household- and school-based data collection in selected sites nationwide (please see Annex 1 for details).

In this regard, we respectfully request your endorsement to facilitate SDRC-DLSU's coordination with the concerned DepEd Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and selected public and private schools for the conduct of the age validation. Please be assured that the SDRC-DLSU team is fully committed to adhering to all relevant protocols and ethical standards.

Should you require additional information, supporting documents, or clarification regarding the methodology and activities of the PELDS validation, the DepEd representatives to the PELDS Advisory Group, UNICEF, and SDRC-DLSU would be happy to provide them.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration and continued support for initiatives that promote quality early childhood education in the country.

Sincerely,

Edgar Donoso Paz
Representative a.i.
UNICEF Philippines

United Nations Children's Fund
14/F North Tower, Rockwell Business Center
Sheridan, Mandaluyong City
1550 Philippines

Telephone +63 2 8249 5400
www.unicef.org/philippines



23 July 2025
Ref: MALO 25-461

Hon. Juan Edgardo M. Angara
Secretary, Department of Education

Attention: Assistant Secretary Mel Oracion
OIC, Office of the Undersecretary for Learning System Strand

Subject: Request for Endorsement for PELDS Validation Project Coordination with Selected Regions, SDOs, and Schools

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Thank you very much for your kind consideration and continued support for initiatives that promote quality early childhood education in the country.

Sincerely,


Edgar Donoso
OIC, UNICEF Representative

Cc: Dr. Maria Caridad H. Tarroja, Project Head / Lead Investigator, SDRC-DLSU
Undersecretary Carmela Oracion, Department of Education
Undersecretary Ronald Mendoza, Department of Education
OIC, Director Ahnee Abutin, Department of Education

		Batan	Angas Lalab
7 (Central Visayas)	Cebu	Dumanjug	Kanyuko Tapon
		Dalaguete	Tapun Dumalan
10 (Northern Mindanao)	Misamis Oriental	Naawan	Poblacion Patag
		Cagayan de Oro City	Bayabas Camaman-an
11 (Davao Region)	Davao del Oro	Campostela	Mapaca Maparat
		Montevista	Lebanon San Jose
12 (Soccsksargen)	Cotabato	Kidapawan City	Sumbao Poblacion
		Makilala	Saguing Sinkatulan
	Lanao Del Sur	Ditsaan-Ramayin	Baclayan Raya Maranao Timber
		Tamparan	Balutmadiar Pagayawan

BARMM	Tawi-Tawi	Bongao	Poblacion Lagasan
		Simunul	Mongkay Timundun
NCR	NCR	Navotas	San Jose Navotas East
		Quezon City	Marilag East Kamias

Regions	Provinces	City/Municipality	Barangay
CAR (Ifugao)	Ifugao	Aguinaldo	Galonogon Ubao
		Mayoyao	Chaya Poblacion
3 (Central Luzon)	Pampanga	Lubao	Santa Maria Santa Cruz
		Santa Rita	Dila-Dila San Vicente
4-B (MIMAROPA)	Oriental Mindoro	Puerto Galera	Santo Nino Poblacion
		Baco	Baras Poblacion
5 (Bicol)	Albay	Daraga	Alobo Anislag
		Ligao City	Busac Tuburan
6 (Western Visayas)	Aklan	Kalibo	Tinigaw Andagaw

Region	Provinces	Socio-Economic Status Based on Income Classification / Language	Other Characteristics	City/Municipality	Income Classification of Cities and Municipalities	Barangay	Population as of 2020	Age Range in Months (yrs)											Field Coordinators			
								0-6 (1/2 yr)	7-12 (1yr)	13-18 (1 1/2yrs)	19-24 (2yrs)	25-30 (2 1/2yrs)	31-36 (3yrs)	37-48 (4yrs)	49-60 (5yrs)	61-72 (6yrs)	73-84 (7yrs)	85-96 (8yrs)		Total (sample)		
CAR (Ifugao)	Ifugao	3rd; Ifugao	Ethnic Group / IP	(Aguinaldo) Lamut	2nd	(Caleogon) Nayon (Ubo) Poblacion West	5.86% / 1,239 14.90% / 2,958	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	16	
				(Mayayo) Kiangnan	3rd	(Chaya) Pindongan (Poblacion) Najacadan	7.36% / 1,150 5.67% / 885	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	13
3 (Central Luzon)	Pampanga	1st; Top 20 Provinces / Kapampangan	Access to Social Services; Rich Culinary Heritage	Lubao	1st	Santa Maria Santa Cruz	0.98% / 1,698 10.20% / 17,700	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	16		
				Santa Rita	4th	Dila-Dila San Vicente	21.67% / 10,449 2.63% / 1,268	5	5	5	5	5	5	9	9	13	13	13	13	9		
4-B (MIMAROPA)	Oriental Mindoro	1st; Tagalog	Ethnic Group / IP	(Puerto Galera) Catapan	2nd	(Osomo yano) Itara Poblacion / Canning	6.46% / 2,711 12.70% / 5,329	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	21		
				Baco	1st	Baco Poblacion	3.93% / 1,563 7.18% / 2,860	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	21	
5 (Bicol)	Albay	1st; 11 Dialects	Disaster Prone	Daraga	1st	Akiba Arabat	0.59% / 794 9.62% / 12,877	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9		
				Ligao City	4th	Baco Tutarra	0.96% / 1,137 5.43% / 6,415	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	16	
6 (Western Visaya)	Aklan	2nd; Aklanon	Mountainous Province	Kalibo	1st	Timog Andarog	3.67% / 3,269 17.28% / 15,404	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	4	4	4	4	26		
				Batan	4th	Angas Lalib	4.64% / 1,153 9.48% / 3,174	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	19	
7 (Central Visaya)	Cebu	1st; Top 20 / Cebuano	Access to Social Services; Rich Culinary Heritage	Dumajug	3rd	Karvuko Tasoo	2.19% / 1,267 7.12% / 4,118	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	16		
				Dalaguete	1st	Tarin Durtalan	6.35% / 4,738 2.68% / 2,002	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	40	
10 (Northern Mindanao)	Misamis Oriental	1st; Bisaya	Coastal Province	Naawan	4th	Poblacion Putan	25.46% / 5,714 6.73% / 1,510	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	5	6	6	6	6	40		
				Cagayan de Oro City	1st	Bayabes Camarang-an	1.92% / 13,991 4.84% / 35,238	8	8	8	8	8	8	16	16	19	19	19	19	19	137	
11 (Davao Region)	Davao del Oro	1st; Davaoeno	Mining Industry	Compostela	1st	Miyaca Maranan	2.54% / 2,281 12.55% / 11,281	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	21		
				Montevista	3rd	Ladimon San Jose	2.59% / 1,206 19.49% / 9,080	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	16	
12 (Soccsargen)	Cotabato	1st; Maguindanao	War Zone; Mix of IP; Varied topography (lit to mountains)	Kidapawan City	3rd	Sumbaj Poblacion	1.16% / 1,860 17.93% / 28,824	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	16		
				Makilala	1st	Saguling Simulanon	8.90% / 7,827 1.85% / 1,624	4	4	4	4	4	3	9	9	11	11	11	11	74		
BARMM	Lanao Del Sur	6th; Poor / Maranao	GIDA / War Zones; Muslim Population; Marano Culture	Dibsan-Ramayin	3rd	Bachuan Raya Maranao Tenber	2.46% / 601 5.06% / 1,235	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	13		
				Tamparan	5th	Bahamadjar Pagsayawan	2.5% / 802 1.96% / 628	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	22		
	Tawi-Tawi	3rd; Poor; Taustug and Sama	GIDA / War Zones; Muslim Population;	Bongao	1st	Poblacion Lagusan	13.32% / 15,462 1.42% / 1,652	6	6	8	8	8	8	17	17	22	22	22	144			
				(Simunul) Panglima Sugala	2nd	(Montogay) Kauruk (Panglima) Panglima Sugala	6.02% / 2,062 14.02% / 4,802	2	2	3	3	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	46		
NCR	NCR	2nd	Flooding Risk / Environmental Factor /	Narvotas	2nd	San Jose Narvotas East	9.68% / 23,950 0.86% / 2,126	10	10	10	10	10	10	21	21	20	20	20	162			
		Top 20 City	Highly Urbanized; Mix of Different Culture; Access to	Quezon City	1st	Commonwealth E. Rodriguez	0.42% / 12,555 0.23% / 6,395	13	13	13	13	13	13	26	26	26	26	26	208			
								144	144	156	156	155	154	311	311	361	361	361	2615			

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Center Sheridan, Mandaluyong City
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15 October 2025
Ref. MALO 25-715

Dr. Cristito A. Eco
OIC - Regional Director
Department of Education
Region VI – Western Visayas

Attention: Feliciano C. Buenafe, Jr., SDS, Schools Division Office of Aklan

Greetings from UNICEF!

We sincerely thank you for your continued collaboration as we move forward with the validation of the enhanced and expanded Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) for children 0 – 8 years. Following the endorsement of the DepEd Central Office through Memorandum OM-OASOPS-2025-A445 dated 10 September 2025 (**Annex 1**), we deeply appreciate the initial coordination and preparations you have undertaken in support of this initiative.

While we will largely adhere to the original list of validation sites previously communicated to your office, please note that any valid and reasonable adjustments, such as the absence of a child development center in a barangay, accessibility, safety and security issues, will be relayed to you directly by the Investigation Team led by Dr. Maria Caridad Tarroja. The updated list of validation sites is attached as **Annex 2**.

We look forward to successfully carrying out the PELDS validation in your region. Your continued positive engagement in our joint efforts—alongside the ECCD Council, DepEd, and DILG, is vital in upholding the fundamental rights of children to development and education.

Sincerely,



Akihiro Fushimi, Ed. D.
Chief, Education Section



United Nations Children's Fund
14/F North Tower, Rockwell Business
Center Sheridan, Mandaluyong City
1550 Philippines

Telephone +63 2 8249 5400
www.unicef.org/philippines



30 October 2025
Ref. MALO 25-715

Dr. Cristito A. Eco
OIC - Regional Director
Department of Education
Region VI – Western Visayas

Attention: Feliciano C. Buenafe, Jr., SDS, Schools Division Office of Aklan

Greetings from UNICEF!

This letter refers to our earlier communication dated 16 October 2025 (Annex 1) regarding the age validation of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) for Children 0 to 8 Years, which UNICEF is currently supporting in collaboration with ECCD Council and DepEd. Please be informed that, based on the recommendation of the Investigation Team led by Dr. Maria Caridad Tarroja, and in light of anticipated challenges in coordinating with the **Municipality of Batan, we will be replacing Batan and its two barangays—Angas and Lalab—with the Municipality of New Washington, including its barangays Tambak and Ochando.**

The selection criteria remain consistent. While Batan holds a 3rd income classification, New Washington has a 2nd income classification. The Municipality of Aklan and its two barangays will continue to serve as age validation sites.

We look forward to successfully implementing the PELDS validation in your region. Your continued positive engagement in this collaborative effort—with the ECCD Council, DepEd, and DILG—is essential in upholding the fundamental rights of children to development and education.

Sincerely,

Akihiro Fushimi, EdD
Chief, Education Section

RM CLMD 156

forward NOV 6



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

OM-OASOPS-2025- A445

TO : **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
(Regions III, IV-B, V, VI, VII, X, XI, XII, and CAR)

JOEL T. TORRECAMPO
*Schools Division Superintendent and
 concurrent Officer-in-Charge, Office of the
 Assistant Regional Director, DepEd NCR*

SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
*(Divisions of Pampanga, Oriental Mindoro, Albay, Ligao City, Aklan,
 Cebu Province, Misamis Oriental, Cagayan de Oro City, Davao de
 Oro, Cotabato Province, Kidapawan City, Ifugao, Navotas City, and
 Quezon City)*

FROM : **JOCELYN DR ANDAYA** 
*Regional Director, NCR
 concurrent Officer-in-Charge,
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations*



SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE
 PHILIPPINES EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
 STANDARDS (PELDS) VALIDATION**

DATE : September 10, 2025

This pertains to the memorandum from Janir T. Datukan, Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems, dated August 20, 2025, regarding the request of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), relative to the conduct of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) validation in selected Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and identified public and private schools. Below is the list of target areas for validation:

Regions	Provinces	City/Municipality	Barangay
CAR	Ifugao	Aguinaldo	Galonogon
			Ubao
		Mayoyao	Chaya
			Poblacion
III	Pampanga	Lubao	Santa Maria
			Santa Cruz
		Santa Rita	Dila-Dila
			San Vicente
IV-B	Oriental Mindoro	Puerto Galera	Santo Nino
			Poblacion

		Baco	Baras
			Poblacion
V	Albay	Daraga	Alobo
			Anislag
		Ligao City	Busac
			Tuburan
VI	Aklan	Kalibo	Tinigaw
			Andagaw
		Dumanjug	Kanyuko
VII	Cebu		Tapon
		Dalaguete	Tapun
			Dumalan
		Naawan	Poblacion
X	Misamis Oriental		Patag
		Cagayan de Oro City	Bayabas
			Camaman-an
		Campostela	Mapaca
XI	Davao de Oro		Maparat
		Montevista	Lebanon
			San Jose
		Kidapawan City	Sumbao
XII	Cotabato		Poblacion
		Makilala	Saguing
			Sinkatulan
		Navotas City	San Jose
NCR	NCR		Navotas East
		Quezon City	Marilag
			East Kamias

The validation activity aims to ensure that the revised standards are developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, and inclusive of children from diverse backgrounds across the Philippines.

In line with this, this Office respectfully endorses the matter, for your review and evaluation, subject to the provisions of all relevant rules and regulations of the Department of Education.

For further inquiries and concerns, kindly directly contact the Early Childhood Care and Development Task Force through email at eccd.tf@deped.gov.ph or number at 09619263003.

Kindly see attached file, for your reference and immediate action.

Enclosure: as stated

Copy furnished:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

osec@deped.gov.ph

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

Department of Education



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

MEMORANDUM
OM-OASLS-ECCDLCC-2025-

FOR : **MALCOM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Operations

FROM : **JANIR T. DATUKAN**
Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems

SUBJECT : **Request for Endorsement for Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) Validation Project Coordination with Selected Regions, SDOs, and Schools**

DATE : **August 20, 2025**

This is in reference to the letter of Mr. Edgar Donoso, representative from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), relative to the request for endorsement of the conduct of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) Validation to the concerned Department of Education (DepEd) Regional Offices (ROs), Schools Division Offices (SDOs), and selected public and private schools.

In collaboration with the Social Development Research Center (SDRC) of De La Salle University, this initiative aims to ensure a seamless continuum and smooth transition for children from home to Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) centers, to kindergarten, and through Grade 3.

In view of the foregoing, this Office respectfully transmits the above letter and its attachments, and seeks your assistance to facilitate the said request.

For inquiries and/or clarifications, please contact the Early Childhood Care and Development Task Force via email at eccd.tf@deped.gov.ph or +63 961-926-3003.

For appropriate action.

DepED



16/F Techzone Building, Malugay/Gil Puyat Street, Barangay San Antonio, Makati City

Telephone No.: (02) 8631-8495

Email Address: oascl.eaae@deped.gov.ph



DepEd Philippines



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www.deped.gov.ph

V-1
Region



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

MEMORANDUM
OM-OASLS-ECCDLCC-2025-

FOR : **MALCOM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Operations

FROM : **JANIR T. DATUKAN**
Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems

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For appropriate action.

Region
BARMM

Outlook

CO-1A-2025-08-17128

Request for Endorsement for PELDS Validation Project Coordination with Selected Regions, SDOs, and Schools

From Mary Grace Simangan <msimangan@unicef.org>

Date Fri 8/1/2025 2:38 PM

To Office of the Secretary <osec@deped.gov.ph>

Cc Ronald Mendoza <ron.mendoza@deped.gov.ph>; Office of the USec for Human Resource & Organizational Dev (OUHROD) <usec.hrod@deped.gov.ph>; Ronald Mendoza <ron.mendoza@deped.gov.ph>; Ahnee Lae Abutin <ahnee.abutin@deped.gov.ph>; Maria Caridad Tarroja <maria.caridad.tarroja@dlsu.edu.ph>; Edgar Donoso <edonoso@unicef.org>; Akihiro Fushimi <afushimi@unicef.org>; Psyche Vetta Olayvar <pvolayvar@unicef.org>; Orison James Calub <ojcalub@unicef.org>

2 attachments (552 KB)

MALO 25-461 Letter to DepEd Secretary Angara.pdf; Final Project Sites_UNICEF_.xlsx;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from msimangan@unicef.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Sent from the Office of Mr. Edgar Donoso Paz, Representative a.i. - UNICEF PHILIPPINES

Hon. Juan Edgardo M. Angara
Secretary, Department of Education

Attention: Assistant Secretary Mel Oracion
OIC, Office of the Undersecretary for Learning System Strand

Dear Secretary Angara,

Warm greetings from UNICEF!

As part of the Work Plan under the Government of the Philippines and UNICEF's 9th Country Program for Children, we are currently supporting the ECCD Council and the Department of Education in the enhancement and expansion of the Philippine Early Learning and Development Standards (PELDS) for children aged 0-8 years.

The PELDS is a vital national framework that outlines age-appropriate developmental milestones and learning standards for young children. Aligned with one objective of the newly legislated ECCD System Law (RA 12199), it serves as the foundation for reviewing and aligning curriculum, instruction, assessment practices, and competency standards for ECCD workers and Kindergarten to Grade 3 teachers. This initiative aims to ensure a seamless continuum and smooth transition for children from home to ECCD centers, to kindergarten, and through to Grade 3.

To support this effort, we have engaged the Social Development Research Center (SDRC) of De La Salle University to conduct content and age validation of the enhanced and expanded PELDS. The primary goal of this validation is to ensure that the standards are developmentally sound, culturally responsive, and inclusive of children from diverse contexts across the Philippines.

The validation process is being overseen by the PELDS Advisory Group, which includes members of the ECCD Council Technical Working Group, representatives from BARMM MBHTE and MSSD, selected experts, UNICEF, and the World Bank. The Department of Education is represented by Ms. Emily Mallari and Ms. Forcefina Frias from DepEd-BLD, and Ms. Sheena Manuel from DepEd-BCD.

SENT TO OUC VIA EMAIL 08/01/25
<https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQKAGNIZTRIMmQxLWVINTMINGlyOC1iYzg2LWE1YzIiODNiZGUxNgAQANfZ4LHn9EuGk5Wpndb0pb...>

As part of the validation activities, SDRC-DLSU will conduct household- and school-based data collection in selected sites nationwide (please see Annex 1 for details).

In this regard, we respectfully request your endorsement to facilitate SDRC-DLSU's coordination with the concerned DepEd Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and selected public and private schools for the conduct of the age validation. Please be assured that the SDRC-DLSU team is fully committed to adhering to all relevant protocols and ethical standards.

Should you require additional information, supporting documents, or clarification regarding the methodology and activities of the PELDS validation, the DepEd representatives to the PELDS Advisory Group, UNICEF, and SDRC-DLSU would be happy to provide them.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration and continued support for initiatives that promote quality early childhood education in the country.

Sincerely,

Edgar Donoso Paz
Representative a.i.
UNICEF Philippines

United Nations Children's Fund
14/F North Tower, Rockwell Business Center
Sheridan, Mandaluyong City
1550 Philippines

Telephone +63 2 8249 5400
www.unicef.org/philippines



23 July 2025
Ref: MALO 25-461

Hon. Juan Edgardo M. Angara
Secretary, Department of Education

Attention: Assistant Secretary Mel Oracion
OIC, Office of the Undersecretary for Learning System Strand

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		Batan	Angas Lalab
7 (Central Visayas)	Cebu	Dumanjug	Kanyuko Tapon
		Dalaguete	Tapun Dumalan
10 (Northern Mindanao)	Misamis Oriental	Naawan	Poblacion Patag
		Cagayan de Oro City	Bayabas Camaman-an
11 (Davao Region)	Davao del Oro	Campostela	Mapaca Maparat
		Montevista	Lebanon San Jose
12 (Soccsksargen)	Cotabato	Kidapawan City	Sumbao Poblacion
		Makilala	Saguing Sinkatulan
	Lanao Del Sur	Ditsaan-Ramayin	Baclayan Raya Maranao Timber
Tamparan		Balutmadiar Pagayawan	

BARMM	Tawi-Tawi	Bongao	Poblacion
			Lagasan
		Simunul	Mongkay
			Timundun
NCR	NCR	Navotas	San Jose
			Navotas East
		Quezon City	Marilag
			East Kamias

Regions	Provinces	City/Municipality	Barangay
CAR (Ifugao)	Ifugao	Aguinaldo	Galonogon Ubao
		Mayoyao	Chaya Poblacion
3 (Central Luzon)	Pampanga	Lubao	Santa Maria Santa Cruz
		Santa Rita	Dila-Dila San Vicente
4-B (MIMAROPA)	Oriental Mindoro	Puerto Galera	Santo Nino Poblacion
		Baco	Baras Poblacion
5 (Bicol)	Albay	Daraga	Alobo Anislag
		Ligao City	Busac Tuburan
6 (Western Visayas)	Aklan	Kalibo	Tinigaw Andagaw